



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Daniel E. ALESSI et al.

Serial No. 09/920,860

Filed: August 3, 2001

For: NEEDLE SAFETY DEVICE  
WITH TORTUOUS PATH

Art Unit: 3763

Examiner: Thompson, Kathryn L.

Atty Docket: 0100/0129

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is a response to the Office Action dated November 13, 2002.  
Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 6, first full paragraph comprising lines 6-11:

To use, a double-ended needle assembly is threaded into neck 8 by way of its base so that one end of the double-ended needle would extend away from holder 2 while the other end of the double-ended needle extends within holder 2. Blood withdrawn from the patient is collected by a vacuum tube inserted to holder 2 at distal end 6. See also the prior art holder shown in Fig. 3.

Page 6, third full paragraph comprising lines 15-21:

As best shown in Fig. 4, holder 2 of the instant invention device has a sleeve 14 that extends, either integrally or otherwise, from neck 8. Moreover, enclosing the opening of the distal end 6 of holder 2 is a cover 16 that may be paper or other types of